

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 102

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Bill Status

SCR102.....by EDUCATION
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE - Stating findings of the Legislature and
encouraging Idaho public schools and public and private institutions of
higher education to recognize American Sign Language coursework for foreign
language credit and encouraging the State Board of Education, the State
Department of Education and the Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to
confer, collaborate and provide information for the inclusion of American
Sign Language as foreign language credit in high school and to determine
ways and incentives in which public and private institutions of higher
education might be encouraged to accept successfully completed coursework
in American Sign Language for foreign language credit.

01/26 Senate intro - 1st rdg - to printing

01/29 Rpt prt - to 10th Ord

01/30 10th Ord - ADOPTED - voice vote

Floor Sponsor - Jorgenson

Title apvd - to House

01/31 House intro - 1st rdg - to Educ

02/15 Rpt out - rec d/p - to 2nd rdg

02/16 2nd rdg - to 3rd rdg

02/20 3rd rdg - ADOPTED - voice vote

Floor Sponsor - Shirley

Title apvd - to Senate

02/21 To enrol

02/22 Rpt enrol - Pres signed

02/23 Sp signed

02/26 To Secretary of State

Bill Text

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 102

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND ENCOURAGING THE IDAHO PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO RECOGNIZE AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE COURSEWORK FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE CREDIT AND ENCOURAGING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE COUNCIL FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING TO CONFER, COLLABORATE AND PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR THE INCLUSION OF AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE AS FOREIGN LANGUAGE CREDIT FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND TO DETERMINE WAYS AND INCENTIVES IN WHICH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION MIGHT BE ENCOURAGED TO ACCEPT SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED COURSEWORK IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE CREDIT.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the unique social, cultural and linguistic heritage of the deaf community and its substantial contribution to the enrichment and diversity of our society is recognized; and

WHEREAS, over the last decades, a significant and growing body of scientific inquiry into American Sign Language (ASL) has been undertaken with the result that ASL is now recognized as a separate and complete language with its own unique grammar and syntax; and

WHEREAS, ASL is one of the most commonly used languages in the United States, and there is significant and growing interest by the general public in learning ASL; and

WHEREAS, the legislative bodies of many states have formally recognized ASL; and

WHEREAS, many states accept ASL coursework for foreign language credit throughout their state educational systems, kindergarten through college; and

WHEREAS, learning and communicating with ASL contributes to a greater understanding of the social and cultural aspects of deafness, the promotion of better communication between hearing people and deaf people who use ASL and the advancement of the full inclusion and participation of deaf people who use ASL in every area of society.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Fifty-ninth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that public schools and public and private institutions of higher education in Idaho are encouraged to recognize American Sign Language coursework for foreign language credit. The Legislature further encourages the State Board of Education, the State Department of Education and the Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to confer, collaborate and provide information for the inclusion of American Sign Language among the foreign language courses approved for foreign language credit for the high school diploma and to determine ways and incentives that might encourage public and private institutions of higher education to accept successfully completed coursework in American Sign Language for foreign language credit.

Statement of Purpose / Fiscal Impact

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS 16558

The purpose of this Concurrent Resolution is to recognize American Sign Language (ASL) as a separate and complete language with its own unique grammar and syntax, and encourage public and private schools and institutions of higher education to offer students foreign language credit for ASL courses.

FISCAL NOTE

There is no fiscal impact.

Contact

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE/FISCAL NOTE

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